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Weekly Coal Production

Energy Information Administration

Production for Week Ended:
September 15, 1990

Preface

The *Weekly Coal Production (WCP)* provides weekly estimates of U.S. coal production by State. Supplementary data are usually published monthly in two supplements: the Coal Exports and Imports Supplement and the Domestic Market Supplement. The Coal Exports and Imports Supplement contains detailed monthly data on U.S. coal and coke exports and imports. The Domestic Market Supplement contains detailed monthly electric utility coal statistics, by Census Division and State, for generation, consumption, stocks, receipts, sulfur content, prices, and the origin and destination of coal shipments. This supplement also contains summary-level, monthly data for all coal-consuming sectors on a quarterly basis.

Preliminary coal production data are published quarterly, based on production data collected using Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report." Based on 1988 data, the coal production estimation error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the sum of the weekly estimates for a quarter and the quarterly EIA-6 preliminary data) ranges from 1 percent to 4 percent.

Final coal production data are published annually, based on the EIA-7A coal production survey. Based on 1988 data, the revision error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the EIA-6 preliminary data and the EIA-7A final data) ranges from 0.02 percent to 0.08 percent.

This publication is prepared by the Coal Division; Office of Coal, Nuclear, Electric and Alternate Fuels; Energy Information Administration (EIA) to fulfill its data collection and dissemination responsibilities as specified in the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-275) as amended. *Weekly Coal Production* is intended for use by industry, press, State and local governments, and consumers. Other publications that may be of interest are the quarterly *Coal Distribution Report*, the *Quarterly Coal Report*, *Coal Production 1988*, and *Coal Data: A Reference*.

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State Coal Profile

Category UC-98

for printing September 21, 1990

Summary

U.S. coal production in the week ended September 15, 1990, as estimated by the Energy Information Administration, totaled 21 million short tons, a 13 percent increase over production in the previous week, which included the Labor Day holiday. Coal production was 7 percent higher than in the comparable week in 1989. Production East of the Mississippi River totaled 13 million short tons, and production West of the Mississippi River totaled 8 million short tons.

Figure 1. Coal Production

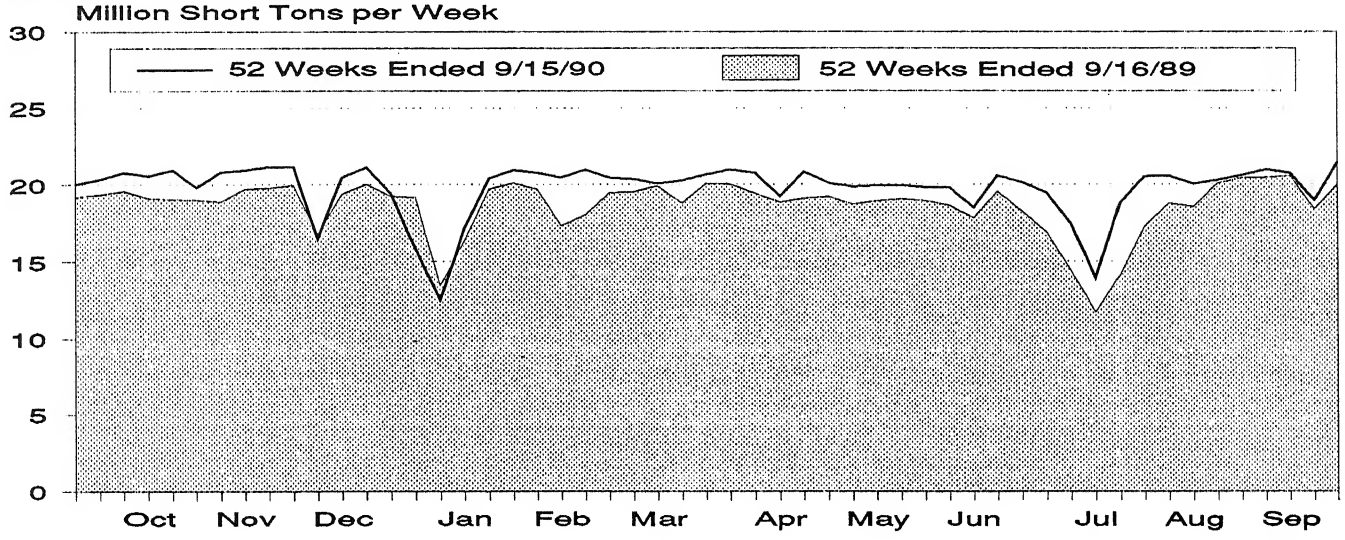


Table 1. Coal Production

Production and Carloadings	Week Ended 09/15/90	09/08/90
Production (Thousand Short Tons)		
Bituminous[1] and Lignite	21,371	18,904
Pennsylvania Anthracite	84	64
U.S. Total	21,455	18,968
Railroad Cars Loaded	137,979	121,718

[1]Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Totals may not equal sum

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportatior Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form E coal production reports.

Table 2. Coal Production by State
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended 09/15/90	09/08/90	09/16/89
Bituminous Coal[1] and Lignite			
East of the Mississippi	12,991	10,861	12,427
Alabama	599	479	566
Illinois	1,150	990	1,249
Indiana	848	725	770
Kentucky	3,403	2,898	3,376
Kentucky, Eastern	2,486	2,107	2,510
Kentucky, Western	917	791	866
Maryland	60	51	52
Ohio	736	600	700
Pennsylvania Bituminous	1,641	1,305	1,436
Tennessee	146	118	142
Virginia	1,022	825	1,126
West Virginia	3,386	2,868	3,011
West of the Mississippi	8,380	8,043	7,535
Alaska	30	26	25
Arizona	261	231	266
Arkansas	3	2	2
Colorado	392	418	327
Iowa	8	7	8
Kansas	24	21	29
Louisiana	64	61	58
Missouri	64	57	61
Montana	732	737	719
New Mexico	624	529	426
North Dakota	603	607	572
Oklahoma	38	34	41
Texas	1,307	1,155	1,220
Utah	445	459	416
Washington	104	92	91
Wyoming	3,681	3,607	3,273
Bituminous[1] and Lignite Total	21,371	18,904	19,962
Pennsylvania Anthracite	84	64	73
U.S. Total	21,455	18,968	20,035

[1]Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

State Coal Profile: Maryland

Total Area of State:

10,577 square miles

Area Underlain by Coal:

440 square miles

Demonstrated Reserve Base of Coal:
(January 1, 1989)

768 million short tons
(<1 percent of U.S. total)

First Year of Documented Coal Production:

1820 (3,000 short tons)

Peak Year of Coal Production:

1907 (6 million short tons)

1989 Coal Production:

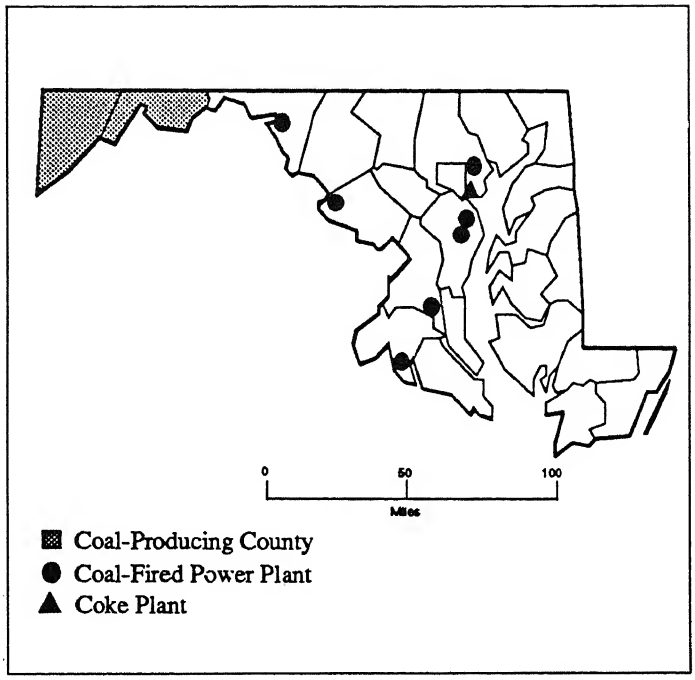
3 million short tons
(<1 percent of U.S. total)

1988 f.o.b. Mine Price:

$25.59 per short ton
(U.S. average = $22.07)

1989 Coal Consumption:

12 million short tons
(1 percent of U.S. total)



1989 Coal Exports:

1 million short tons
(1 percent of U.S. total)

1989 Total Coal Exports through Baltimore:

9 million short tons
(9 percent of U.S. total)

	Number	Percentage of U.S. Total
Number of Mines (1988)	29	<1
Underground	2	<1
Surface	27	<1
Number of Miners (1988) (at mines producing more than 10,000 short tons)	530	<1
Underground	288	<1
Surface	242	<1

Average Quality of Utility Coal Receipts (1989)	Maryland	U.S. Average
Heat Content (million Btu per short tons	25.4	20.9
Sulfur Content (percent by weight)	1.4	1.3
Ash Content (percent by weight)	10.5	9.9

Coal is one of Maryland's important mineral commodities. Although no longer the State's leading mineral commodity, coal accounted for about one-fifth of the total value of its mineral production in 1989, estimated at over $400 million. Coal is the principal mineral fuel produced in Maryland, which also has a small output of natural gas from a deposit in the coal mining area.

Maryland's coal deposits are located in the two western counties, Allegany and Garrett. The coal, all bituminous in rank, occurs in five elongated fields on the Allegheny Plateau, which composes the eastern edge of the Appalachian Coal Basin in Maryland. The coalbeds are moderately inclined on the flanks of the fields, but are generally flat within the fields.

Production is largely from two adjoining fields, Georges Creek and Potomac. Although more than 10 coalbeds are mined, over half of the total output in the State is from the Upper Freeport coalbed, one of the major coalbeds in the East. The beds mined range from 2 to 10 feet in thickness, but more than half of the annual tonnage is from beds 6 to 8 feet in thickness. In general, Maryland's coal has a high heat content, averaging 25 million Btu per short ton. The sulfur content typically ranges from 1 to 2 percent, by weight, and the ash content is over 10 percent. Both steam and metallurgical coal were produced in 1989, the latter only for the export market.

Coal was first noted in Maryland in 1736, along the Potomac River, near what is now the border with West Virginia. Maryland's coal production dates back to the 1780's, when small amounts were mined for Fort Cumberland, a frontier outpost. In 1830, the first coal shipments eastward were made by barge down the Potomac River, a route later abandoned because of rapids in the river. Although Maryland's first coal mining company was incorporated in 1836, coal production did not become important until the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad reached Cumberland in 1842. In 1850, the opening of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from Cumberland to Washington, D.C., provided another route for coal shipments. Over 21 million short tons of coal were transported on the canal before it closed in 1923.

Coal production in Maryland rose above 1 million short tons in 1865, exceeded 4 million short tons by the turn of the century, and reached a record of nearly 6 million short tons in 1907. About 2 to 4 percent of the coal produced in the early 1900's was a premium smithing, or blacksmith, coal that was specially processed and generally delivered in box cars to customers throughout the United States and Canada. Maryland's total coal production declined sharply after 1920, reflecting downturns in the economy, recurrent labor problems, and the extensive replacement of coal by petroleum. Production fell below 1 million short tons during the 1950's and early 1960's before the trend turned strongly upwards, due mostly to an increasing use of coal to generate electricity. In the 1980's, Maryland's coal output ranged between 3 and 5 million short tons annually. The 3 million short tons mined in 1989 ranked Maryland 20th among the 27 coal-producing States.

Before World War II, most of Maryland's coal production was from underground mines. During the war, a rising demand for coal and a shortage of manpower to work the underground mines led to an increase in surface coal mining in the State. The tonnage from surface mines predominated until the early 1980's, when underground mining once again became the largest source of production, averaging 60 percent of the total in recent years.

The largest of the 29 coal mines in Maryland in 1989 was an underground mine operated in Garrett County by Mettiki Coal Corporation, which produced nearly 2 million short tons, using both conventional and longwall mining techniques. Mettiki also operates the largest coal preparation plant in Maryland. The other coal mines are considerably smaller operations. In 1988, coal miner productivity in Maryland was above the average for the Appalachian Region, averaging 3.0 short tons per hour.

Of the 3 million short tons of coal produced in Maryland in 1989, two-thirds were shipped to domestic markets, largely to power plants in the State. The remaining one-third, mostly metallurgical coal, was exported.

Maryland's coal consumption totaled nearly 12 million short tons in 1989. Electric utilities used about 9 million short tons, obtaining nearly 20 percent of their coal requirements from mines in Maryland and most of the balance from West Virginia and Pennsylvania. A coke plant at the Sparrows Point Steel Plant of Bethlehem Steel Corporation, near Baltimore, carbonized nearly 2 million short tons of metallurgical coal produced in other States. A $45 million environmental demonstration project, partly funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, is underway at the plant to remove or reduce harmful emissions from the coke ovens and coke oven gas, which is used in the steel mill. Less than 1 million short tons of coal were used by other consumers, chiefly cement plants and a paper mill.

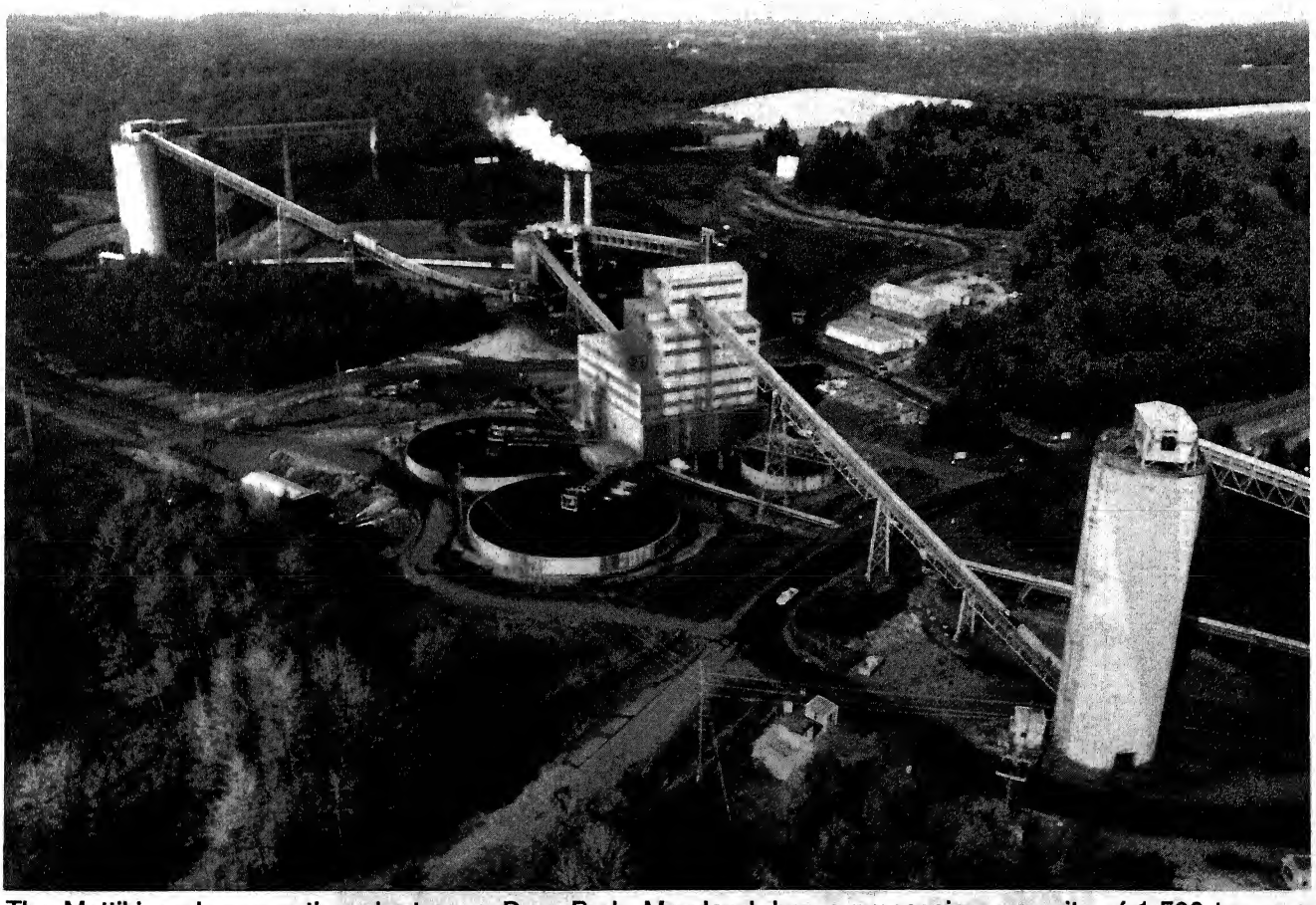
Coal-fired electric generating units, located in seven power plants, account for about 40 percent of the net summer generating capability in Maryland. The share of total electricity generated from coal rose

significantly during the 1980's, from over 40 percent in the early part of the decade to over 60 percent in 1989, when coal-fired generation reached 23,627 gigawatthours.

Coal exports from Maryland and other Appalachian States are shipped from the Baltimore Customs District, which is the second-largest coal-exporting district on the East Coast and the fourth-largest in the Nation. Coal traffic through Baltimore totaled 9 million short tons in 1989, accounting for 9 percent of total U.S. coal exports.

Coal production in Maryland is projected to continue at the current level of 3 million short tons per year through 1991. The level of future coal production in the State is limited because many of the better quality, easily mined coalbeds have been depleted. However, future economic conditions and advances in mining and clean coal technologies can improve the feasibility of mining coalbeds that are presently considered too thin or low in quality to be economically minable. In 1995, a market for about 650,000 short tons per year of Maryland coal will be provided by a $300 million cogeneration plant to be built in Allegany County by Applied Energy Services Incorporated, Arlington, Virginia. In addition to producing steam for industrial and other uses, the plant will generate about 180 megawatts of electricity for the Potomac Edison company. Plant construction is scheduled to begin in 1992.

Sources: Energy Information Administration, *Coal Production* (various issues); *Quarterly Coal Report* (various issues); *Coal Distribution January-December 1989* (April 1990); *Cost and Quality of Fuels for Electric Utility Plants 1989* (July 1990); *Inventory of Power Plants in the United States 1989* (August 1990); *Electric Power Annual* (various issues); *Electric Power Monthly, December 1989* (March 1990); U.S. Department of Energy, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Office of Clean Coal Technology, *Comprehensive Report to Congress: Innovative Coke Oven Gas Cleaning System for Retrofit Applications* (DOE/FE-0137) (August 1989); U.S. Bureau of Mines, *State Mineral Summaries 1990;* Maryland Bureau of Mines, *Calendar Year 1989, Sixty-Seventh Annual Report;* Maryland Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources, *Bulletin 19,* "Geography and Geology of Maryland" (1961); "Longwall Census '90," *Coal,* Vol. 95, No. 2 (February 1990), pp. 36-47; "Plant Census Shows More Than 400," *Coal,* Vol. 26, No. 8 (November 1989), pp. 56-65; "Cogen Plant to Use Md. Coal," *Coal Outlook,* Vol. 14, No. 26 (July 2, 1990), p.5.



The Mettiki coal preparation plant, near Deer Park, Maryland, has a processing capacity of 1,500 tons per hour.

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